

PROCEEDING TO ADDRESS THE CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF UNBUNDLED LOCAL SWITCHING FOR MASS MARKET CUSTOMERS

On August 21, 2003, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued its Triennial Review of Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers Order ("TRO"). In its Order, the FCC delegates to the States authority to undertake certain analyses in accordance with Federal guidelines. Under the TRO, State commissions acquire certain fact finding responsibilities and are instructed to undertake analyses which will affect incumbent LECs' unbundling obligations for certain network elements in particular areas. The TRO required State commissions to analyze the continued availability of unbundled local switching to serve mass market customers. The Public Service Commission of South Carolina's role is a fact-finding role to determine whether impairment exists for competitive local exchange carriers within the State of South Carolina and within local markets in South Carolina.

A copy of the FCC's Triennial Review Order is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE a hearing on unbundled local switching for mass market customers has been scheduled to begin at **10:30 a.m., on Monday, April 12, 2004**, before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room at 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify Bruce F. Duke, Deputy Executive Director, at the address below, on or before **January 24, 2004**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please refer to **Docket No. 2003-326-C**.

Any person who wishes to present his views to the Public Service Commission may do so in writing, on or before **January 24, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2003-326-C**.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record, should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with Commission's Procedures, on or before **January 24, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2003-326-C**.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission by dialing (803) 896-5105.

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